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Because of a classification error, page 4 of the EURA typescript dated 20 September 1985, "France Tries to Close the Technology Gap II" (Control Number) should be replaced with the attached corrected copy.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Ariespace may be bracing
itself for political turmoil in French Guiana.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Recent press reports say security at the Kourou facility is poor, and the local independence movement is on the rise. Growing tension resulted in a violent clash last month between locals and French legionnaires. Should Ariespace be forced to turn to the United States in a pinch, it would be a further embarrassment for France that would raise even more serious concerns about the dependability of the Ariane program.

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Research Spending

The Mitterrand government's continuing commitment to high technology development is demonstrated by its willingness to increase research spending despite a tough domestic austerity program. On 11 September, the government adopted the 1986 budget in which expenditures for research are one of the few items scheduled for growth in real terms. According to the French press, the research budget will be boosted by 8 percent in nominal terms or, given current inflation projections, a 3-3.5 percent in real terms.

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Technology Transfer and Industrial Espionage

France continues to maintain its hard line on technology leaks to the Soviet Union. [REDACTED] the French government is alarmed by an increase in Soviet industrial espionage

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